



## **STRENGTHENING SOCIAL SECURITY: BY THE NUMBERS**

Number of years ago President Bush established the bipartisan Commission to Strengthen Social Security, giving them the mandate to submit, "recommendations to modernize and restore fiscal soundness to the Social Security system"<sup>1</sup>:

**4 years ago today**

The percentage of promised benefits that the current Social Security system can afford to pay in 2041:

**74 percent**

Number of retirees who paid into Social Security their whole lives and are provided with benefits that leave them below the poverty line:

**2 million**

According to a recent FOX News/Opinion Dynamics survey, the percentage of Americans who, "believe the Social Security system is something the President and Congress need to fix now"<sup>2</sup>:

**74 percent**

According to the same survey, the percentage of Americans ages 18 to 55 who believe they should have the option of creating a voluntary personal account within the Social Security system<sup>3</sup>:

**84 percent**

<sup>1</sup> [Executive Order: President's Commission to Strengthen Social Security](#), May 2, 2001.

<sup>2</sup> Fox News/Opinion Dynamics poll of 900 registered voters (+/- 3%), conducted over April 25-26, 2005.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.